

## § 29.3101

## 7 CFR Ch. I (1–1–07 Edition)

### ELEMENTS OF QUALITY

#### § 29.3101 Elements of quality and degrees of each element.

These standardized words or terms are used to describe tobacco quality and to assist in interpreting grade specifications. Tobacco attributes or characteristics which constitute quality are designated as elements of quality. The range within each element is expressed by the use of words or terms designated as degrees. These several degrees are arranged to show their relative value, but the actual value of each degree varies with type, group, and grade. In each case the first and last degrees represent the full range for the element, and the intermediate degrees show gradual steps between them.

Elements			De- grees		
1 Body .....	Tissue- y. Mellow	Thin ...	Me- dium. Mature	Fleshy	Heavy.
2 Maturity ..		Ripe ...		Under- ripe.	Imma- ture.
3 Leaf structure (porosity and solid- ity) ..	Porous	Open	Firm ...	Close	Solid.
4 Leaf sur- face (smooth- ness).	Smoot- h.	Even ..	Wavy	Wrinkly	Rough.
5 Finish .....	Bright	Clear ..	Mod- erate. do	Dull ....	Dingy.
6 Color in- tensity.	Deep ..	Strong		Weak	Pale.
7 Width .....	Broad	Sprea- dy.	Normal	Narrow	Stringy.
8 Length ....	(1) .....	(1) .....	(1) .....	(1) .....	(1)
9 Uniformity	(2) .....	(2) .....	(2) .....	(2) .....	(2)
10 Injury tolerance.	(2) .....	(2) .....	(2) .....	(2) .....	(2)

<sup>1</sup> Expressed in inches.

<sup>2</sup> Expressed in percentage.

### RULES

#### § 29.3103 Rules.

The application of these official standard grades shall be in accordance with the following rules.

##### § 29.3104 Rule 1.

Each grade shall be treated as a sub-division of a particular type. When the grade is stated in an inspection certificate, the type also shall be stated.

##### § 29.3105 Rule 2.

The determination of a grade shall be based upon a thorough examination of a lot of tobacco or of an official sample of the lot.

##### § 29.3106 Rule 3.

In drawing an official sample from a hogshead or other package of tobacco, three or more breaks shall be made at such points and in such manner as the inspector or sampler may find necessary to determine the kinds of tobacco and the percentage of each kind contained in the lot. One break shall be made not more than six inches from the top of the package and one not more than six inches from the bottom. All breaks shall be made so that the tobacco contained in the center of the package is visible to the sampler. Tobacco shall be drawn from at least three breaks from which a representative sample shall be selected. The sample shall include tobacco of each different group, quality, color, length, and kind found in the lot in proportion to the quantities of each contained in the lot.

[24 FR 8771, Oct. 29, 1959, as amended at 49 FR 16758, Apr. 20, 1984]

##### § 29.3107 Rule 4.

The grade assigned to any lot of tobacco shall be a true representation of the tobacco at the time of inspection and certification. If, at any time, it is found that a lot of tobacco does not comply with the specifications of the grade previously assigned, it shall not thereafter be represented as such grade.

##### § 29.3108 Rule 5.

A lot of tobacco on the marginal line between two colors shall be placed in the color with which it best corresponds with respect to body or other associated elements of quality.

##### § 29.3109 Rule 6.

Any lot of tobacco which meets the specifications of two grades shall be placed in the higher grade. Any lot of tobacco on the marginal line between two grades shall be placed in the lower grade.